STATEMENT

National Library, Calcutta

Statistics of publications received under D.P. Act during 1998-99

LANGUAGE-WISE	
Assamese	355
Bengali	1,452
English	4,529
Gujarati	503
Hindi	1,591
Kannada	793
Kashmiri	—
Malayalam	368
Marathi	1,185
Oriya	1,941
Punjabi	303
Sanskrit	105
Sindhi	57
Tamil	1,929
Telugu	575
Urdu	217
Other languages	19
TOTAL:	15,922

Return of Indian objects from Albert Museum, London

5382. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had sent 21 objects for exhibition in Victoria and Albert Museum, London and they were to return to Delhi in January, 2000;

(b) if so, whether these objects have since been returned;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken to get back these ancient objects?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Objects have been returned.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Renovation of Historical sites in Tamil Nadu

5383. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will undertake repair and renovation of the historical sites in Tamil Nadu to maintain the sites in their original shape; and

(b) if so, what is the time schedule?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) The conservation of the centrally protected monuments in Tamil Nadu, is a continuous process. It is taken up as per their actual requirements, on archaeological norms, depending on the availability of resources.

Protection of Hampi from construction of bridges over Tungabhadra

5384. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the construction of two bridges over Tungabhadra will affect the Hampi's heritage status;

(b) whether the UNESCO authorities are expressing concern in the matter; and

(c) the steps Government propose to protect the World Heritage Status of Hampi?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Heritage Site of Hampi has been declared as an endangered site by the UNESCO in view of construction of two bridges at the site.

(c) The Government of Karnataka, on the advise of Government of India has set up a high level Task force to take up long term corrective measures for the preservation and maintenance of Hampi monuments.